

### AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5 with the following amended paragraph.

The present application ~~claims priority from U.S. patent application~~ is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/809,567 filed March 15, 2001, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/724,460 file filed November 28, 2000, which claims priority from provisional application US 60/189,816 filed March 16, 2000.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 29 with the following amended paragraph.

Figure 1 depicts a nucleic acid sequence (~~SEQ ID NO: 1~~) (SEQ ID NO: 18) and amino acid sequence (~~SEQ ID NO: 2~~) (SEQ ID NO: 19) of the human IL-17 receptor like polypeptide.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 32 with the following amended paragraph.

Figure 2 depicts an overlap of the present human IL-17 receptor like (hIL-17RL; SEQ ID NO: 19) polypeptide and a known IL-17 receptor family member (SEQ ID NO: 20).

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 32, line 14 with the following amended paragraph.

As shown in Figure 2 4, the predicted amino acid sequences of human IL-17 receptor like polypeptides (SEQ ID NO: 2)is aligned with a known human IL-17 receptor family member (SEQ ID NO: 3). Other IL-17 receptor like polypeptide analogs can be determined using these or other methods known to those of skill in the art. These overlapping sequences provide guidance for conservative and non-conservative amino acids substitutions resulting in additional IL-17 receptor like analogs. It will be appreciated that these amino acid substitutions can consist of naturally occurring or non-naturally occurring amino acids. For example, potential IL-17 receptor like analogs may have the Gly at residue

[at] position 45 of SEQ ID NO: 2 substituted with a Pro or Ala residue, the Phe residue at position 227 of SEQ ID NO: 2 substituted with a Leu, Val, Ile, Ala or Tyr residue, and/or the Ser residue at position 363 of SEQ ID NO: 2 substituted with a Thr, Ala or Cys. In addition, potential IL-17 receptor like analogs may have the Val residue at position 374 of SEQ ID NO: 2 substituted with a an Ile, Met, Leu, Phe, Ala or norleucine residue, the Cys residue at position 385 of SEQ ID NO: 2; substituted with a Ser or Ala residue, and/or the Asp residue at position 515 of SEQ ID NO: 2 substituted with a Glu residue.